

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 MCT-01 /074 W

-----091320Z 000804 /40

R 091210Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6177

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 1452

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF, PINT

SUBJECT: UBC IN FINAL COLLAPSE

REF: JOHANNESBURG 1098, 1142, 1172

1. AS PREDICTED (REFTELS), SOWETO URBAN BANTU COUNCIL, LONG IN OPPOSITION TO DEMANDS OF STUDENTS AND OTHERS THAT THEY RESIGN, FINALLY ACCEDED TO CERTAIN STUDENT AND COMMUNITY PRESSURES AND ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO DISBAND. INCLUDED AMONG THOSE AGREEING TO RESIGN WERE SOWETO 'MAYOR' THEBAHALI AND VICE-'MAYOR' MAPONYA, AS WELL AS AN ADDITIONAL 14 UBC COUNSELLORS. ALTHOUGH 11 MEMBERS REMAIN, THERE NO LONGER ARE SUFFICIENT MEMBERS TO CONSTITUTE A QUORUM AND THE UBC IS OFFICIALLY OUT OF BUSINESS.

2. REACTIN OF THE WEST RAND ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD (WRAB) HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS " DISENCHANTMENT", AS THE WRAB ANNOUNCED SOWETO WILL PROBABLY NOT GET ANOTHER COUNCIL UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT (THE SAG) DECIDES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW FORM OF

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MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FOR URBAN BLACKS. THIS PROBABLY WOULDN'T AFFECT MOST URBAN BLACKS IN ANY CASE AS THE UBC'S ARE LARGELY REGARDED WITHIN THE BLACK COMMUNITY AS INEFFECTUAL.

3. COMMENT: ONE GETS THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION (BORN OUT BY SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS) THAT 'MAYOR' THEBAHALI AND MANY OF THE OTHER UBC MEMBERS RECENTLY RESIGNED DID SO WITH THE

UTMOST RELUCTANCE AND PROBABLY ACCEDED TO STUDENT DEMANDS ONLY
BECAUSE OF EXTREME PRESSURE. THERE IS MUCH TALK ABOUT THE SUPPOSED
'CORRUPTION' OF SOME OF THE UBC MEMBERSHIP AND THE FACT THAT
SOME MEMBERS ALLEGEDLY USED THE UBC (THEBAHALI AMONG THEM)
FOR PERSONAL GAIN.
KIRBY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNITY RELATIONS, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JOHANN01452
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770205-1211
Format: TEL
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770674/aaaacnat.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 94321782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 JOHANNESBURG 1098
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2217408
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UBC IN FINAL COLLAPSE
TAGS: PINT, SF, UBC, URBAN BANTU COUNCIL, (THEBAHALI), (MAPONYA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/94321782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009